

Message Text

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STATE PASS USDA/FAS/WASHDC, OILSEEDS & PRODUCTS DIV., FMD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EPAP, VE

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN SUNFLOWER SEED REQUIREMENTS

REF: FASTO 10

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. DR. EUCLIDES OJEDA, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE'S

(MAC) OILSEED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, STATES THAT SUNFLOWER PRODUCTION STILL ON EXPERIMENTAL BASIS. UNTIL NOW 200 METRIC TONS ROMANIAN SEED IMPORTED BY THE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING CORPORATION AND SOWN BY MAC ON APPROXIMATELY 1,500 HECTARES, SO ADAPTABILITY OF U.S. SEED NOT YET DETERMINED. ALTHOUGH 1976 SEED IMPORT NEEDS NOT KNOWN, DR. OJEDA EXPRESSED DESIRE TO BE CONTACTED BY U.S. SEED SUPPLIERS AND STATED THAT U.S. SEED KNOWN TO BE OF GOOD QUALITY. SUGGEST NORTH DAKOTA GROWERS CONTACT DR. OJEDA AT FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

DR. EUCLIDES OJEDA
JEFE DE PROGRAMA DE OLEAGINOSAS
DIRECCION DE DESARROLLO AGRICOLA
MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA Y CRIA
TORRE NORTE, CENTRO SIMON BOLIVAR
CARACAS, VENEZUELA

2. ADDITIONAL CONTACT MADE WITH FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL WHOSE FIRM ONLY PRIVATE ENTITY KNOWN TO BE EXPERIMENTING WITH SUNFLOWER SEED:

DR. ZAREK ZARIKIAN
GERENTE GENERAL
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ALGODONERA GUARICO, S.A.

AVENIDA URDANETA
EDIFICIO BANCO ITALO-VENEZOLANO
CARACAS, VENEZUELA

ZARIKIAN STATED THAT ONLY ARGENTINE AND ROMANIAN SEED BEING USED ON HIS FARMS BUT ANXIOUS TO TEST U.S. HYBRIDS. ZARIKIAN MUST OBTAIN SANITARY PERMIT TO IMPORT U.S. SEED. THEREFORE, HE SUGGESTED N. DAKOTA GROWERS CONTACT HIM IMMEDIATELY TO GIVE NAMES AND QUANTITIES OF EACH SEED VARIETY ABLE TO SUPPLY. NEEDS MINIMUM 10 KILOS EACH VARIETY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT. AGATT VISITED ZARIKIAN FARM ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AND FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH OPERATIONS. ALTHOUGH HE MAY NEED ONLY LIMITED QUANTITY OF SEED AT FIRST FOR EXPERIMENTATION, MARKETING SEED THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS PERHAPS MORE PROFITABLE AT PRESENT. ZARIKIAN CLAIMS THAT MAC ACTUALLY PLANTED ONLY 400 HECTARES IN SUNFLOWER SEED LAST SEASON AND LOST PRACTICALLY ALL DUE TO LACK OF HARVESTING EQUIPMENT. SEED IMPORTED BY MAC ALL OF ROMANIAN ORIGIN PROBABLY SINCE CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR FOR SUNFLOWER EXPERIMENTATION, DR. VOINEA, ORIGINALLY FROM ROMANIA. DR. VOINEA WORKING WITH CENIAP (MAC RESEARCH CENTER IN MARACAY). HIS SUPERIOR IS DR. BRUNAO MAZZANI, DIRECTOR OF OILSEED SECTION, TEL: 22-475 OR 22-485. REPRESENTATIVES WITH GULF (OR GOLD) KIST ALREADY APPROACHED MAC WITH OFFER TO SELL SUNFLOWER SEED. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.
SHLAUDEMAM

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